

agency to provide services to individuals with disabilities, the plan must include a description of the nature and scope of the joint program, the services to be provided, the respective roles of each participating agency in the provision of services and in their administration, and the share of the costs to be assumed by each agency.

(b) If a proposed joint program does not comply with the statewideness requirement in §361.25, the State unit shall obtain a waiver of statewideness, in accordance with §361.26.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1820–0500)

(Authority: Section 101(a)(1)(A) of the Act; 29 U.S.C. 721(a)(1)(A))

**§361.28 Third-party cooperative arrangements involving funds from other public agencies.**

(a) If the designated State unit enters into a third-party cooperative arrangement for providing or administering vocational rehabilitation services with another State agency or a local public agency that is furnishing part or all of the non-Federal share, the State plan must assure that—

(1) The services provided by the cooperating agency are not the customary or typical services provided by that agency but are new services that have a vocational rehabilitation focus or existing services that have been modified, adapted, expanded, or reconfigured to have a vocational rehabilitation focus;

(2) The services provided by the cooperating agency are only available to applicants for, or recipients of, services from the designated State unit;

(3) Program expenditures and staff providing services under the cooperative arrangement are under the administrative supervision of the designated State unit; and

(4) All State plan requirements, including a State's order of selection, will apply to all services provided under the cooperative program.

(b) If a third party cooperative agreement does not comply with the statewideness requirement in §361.25, the State unit shall obtain a waiver of

statewideness, in accordance with §361.26.

(Authority: Sec. 101(a)(1)(A) of the Act; 29 U.S.C. 721(a)(1)(A))

**§361.29 Statewide studies and evaluations.**

(a) *Statewide studies.* The State plan must assure that the State unit conducts continuing statewide studies to determine the current needs of individuals with disabilities within the State and the best methods to meet those needs. As part of the development of the State plan, the continuing statewide studies, at a minimum, must include—

(1) A triennial comprehensive assessment of the rehabilitation needs of individuals with severe disabilities who reside in the State;

(2) A triennial review of the effectiveness of outreach procedures used to identify and serve individuals with disabilities who are minorities and individuals with disabilities who are unserved and underserved by the vocational rehabilitation system; and

(3) A triennial review of a broad variety of methods to provide, expand, and improve vocational rehabilitation services to individuals with the most severe disabilities, including individuals receiving supported employment services under 34 CFR part 363.

(b) *Annual evaluation.* The State plan must assure that the State unit conducts an annual evaluation of the effectiveness of the State's vocational rehabilitation program in providing vocational rehabilitation and supported employment services, especially to individuals with the most severe disabilities. The annual evaluation must analyze the extent to which—

(1) The State has achieved the goals and priorities established in the State plan and annual amendments to the plan; and

(2) The State is in compliance with the evaluation standards and performance indicators established by the Secretary pursuant to section 106 of the Act.

(c) *Reporting requirements.* (1) The State plan must describe annually those changes that have been adopted in policy, in the State plan and its amendments, and in the strategic plan